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CONFERENCE ON DISARMAMENT

CD/1345
6 September 1995

ENGLISH
Original: RUSSIAN

LETTER DATED 5 SEPTEMBER 1995 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE REPUBLIC OF BELARUS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE CONFERENCE ON DISARMAMENT TRANSMITTING THE TEXT OF A PRESS RELEASE ISSUED BY THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS IN CONNECTION WITH THE ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE REPUBLIC OF BELARUS OF A MORATORIUM ON THE EXPORT OF ANTI-PERSONNEL LAND-MINES

I have the honour to transmit to you the text of a press release issued by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Belarus on 4 September 1995 in connection with the announcement by the Republic of Belarus of a moratorium on the export of anti-personnel land-mines.

Please take the appropriate steps to register this document as an official document of the Conference on Disarmament and ensure its distribution among all delegations of member States and non-member States participating in the work of the Conference.

(Signed) Stanislau AGURTSOU
Ambassador, Permanent Representative
Republic of Belarus
Head of delegation

PRESS RELEASE

Issued by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Belarus in connection with the announcement by the Republic of Belarus of a moratorium on the export of anti-personnel land-mines

The President of the Republic of Belarus, consistently pursuing the principles of national policy in the field of disarmament, and also following the spirit of United Nations initiatives in the field of mine clearance, in the desire to limit the spread of the most dangerous types of conventional weapon having indiscriminate effects, has issued decree No. 355 of 22 August 1995 introducing a moratorium on the export of anti-personnel land-mines applicable in the Republic of Belarus from 1 September 1995 until the end of 1997.

In taking this decision, the Republic of Belarus had in mind that not only participants in military actions but also to a considerable extent the civilian population fall victim to this type of weapon, a fact which underlines the inhuman nature of anti-personnel land-mines. In view of its scale at the present time, the problem of mine clearance is regarded by the Republic of Belarus as a priority issue in international relations.

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